



DOVER/KENT COUNTY MPO PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF AUGUST 23, 2011

PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Dwight Meyer, Chair	Michael Gumrot, Vice Chair	Phyllis B. Collins
Horace Cook	Arley Cooper, Jr.	David Fry
Dr. Daniel Houghtaling	James Webster	

MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING:

Prameela Kaza	Dr. Carlton Cannon	James Brown
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NON-MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Rich Vetter, MPO Staff	Kate Layton, MPO Staff	James Galvin, MPO Staff
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The meeting was called to order at the DSU Outreach and Research Center, 884 Smyrna-Leipsic Road, Smyrna, at approximately 7:10 PM.

1. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS & GUESTS

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Agenda

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to approve the agenda. Seconded by Dr. Houghtaling. Motion carried.

4. ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes June 21, 2011 annual workshop

MOTION By Mr. Cook to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Cooper. Motion carried.

5. ANNUAL MEETING:

At this time Ms. Layton assumed the chair to facilitate the annual elections.

5.1 Elections

MOTION By Mr. Cook nominating Mr. Meyer as chair. Seconded by Mr. Webster. Motion carried.

MOTION By Mr. Cooper to close nominations. Seconded by Mr. Fry. Motion carried.

Mr. Meyer was elected Chair by acclamation.

MOTION By Dr. Houghtaling nominating Mr. Gumrot as vice-chair. Seconded by Mr. Fry. Motion carried.

MOTION By Mr. Cooper to close nominations. Seconded by Mr. Cooper. Motion carried.



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Mr. Gumrot was elected Vice-Chair by acclamation.

Mr. Meyer and Mr. Gumrot thanked the PAC members for their confidence.

6. DISCUSSION: Completion Report – There were no questions or comments.

7. ACTION ITEM: Dover/Kent County MPO Bicycle Plan – Rich Vetter

Mr. Vetter gave a presentation on the Regional Bicycle Plan developed by the MPO. He noted that the public comment period began on July 20th and continued through August 20th. He also noted that he has given the same presentation to Kent County Levy Court. PAC members asked that DelDOT's new bicycle map and Delaware's bicycle laws be sent to them. There was considerable discussion concerning enforcement and the safety of bicyclists, particularly children, on major roadways such as US13. Mr. Cook felt that the Plan was trying to integrate bicycle riders before educating them. Mr. Gumrot noted that the Route 1 bike path had fatalities every year. Mr. Fry and Mr. Cooper both felt there should be age restrictions for bicyclists on highways, similar to drivers' license requirements (age 16). Mr. Cooper also noted that most people are not aware of the laws regarding bicycle riders. He also felt that enforcement agencies needed to provide more education to police officers regarding bicycle laws. PAC members felt that education and enforcement were serious issues that need consideration. Suggestions were for MPO staff to offer to teach classes at police academy courses, and to use the DMV screens to publicize bicycle laws.

Mr. Vetter reviewed the proposed projects, both on and off road. Mr. Vetter also reported that the State has \$5 million dollars for off-road projects.

MOTION By Mr. Cook to recommend Council approve the Regional Bicycle Plan as presented with public comments incorporated. Seconded by Mr. Fry. Motion carried.

8. ACTION ITEM: Proposed Amendment to FY2012 UPWP – Rich Vetter

Mr. Vetter reviewed the amendments to the UPWP, which had been sent to the PAC members prior to the meeting. The projects being added to the UPWP are the Transportation Improvement District (TID) project with Kent County and the plan for Cheswold's town center. Funds were also allocated to increases in employee supplemental benefits and a small pay increase.

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to recommend Council approve the UPWP amendment. Seconded by Ms. Collins. Motion carried.

9. ACTION ITEM: Proposed Amendment to FY 2012-2015 TIP – Jim Galvin (enclosure)

Mr. Galvin reviewed the projects added to the CTP that required an FY2012 amendment (materials sent to the PAC previously). He explained that the TIP had been developed and approved in May based on FY11 CTP figures in the absence of a draft FY12 CTP from DelDOT. After the Bond Bill was passed by the legislature, four projects were added:



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- 1) SR8/Hazletville Road connector (new high school) – (\$250K for preliminary engineering; construction in 2015);
- 2) SR1/SR30 grade separated intersection – new project (included in Sussex County projects in FY11 CTP);
- 3) Dover Maintenance Building (\$200K increase);
- 4) Bus Parking/Transit facilities – new project

MOTION By Mr. Cook to recommend Council approve all FY2012-15 TIP amendments as presented. Seconded by Mr. Gumrot. Motion carried.

9.1 ACTION ITEM: Proposed Amendment to FY2011-2014 TIP

Mr. Galvin reviewed the DNREC Trails project (descriptive materials sent to PAC members previously). The funding for this project was transferred from DNREC to DelDOT, requiring an amendment. Due to the federal fiscal year, there are also time constraints, and the amendment needed to be approved before October 1. Mr. Gumrot asked where projects were identified: Mr. Galvin said that New Castle and Sussex county projects were in the Trails project. There is no Kent County Trail, but money will be spent in Kent County in general statewide projects.

Mr. Galvin reported that DelDOT staff had announced at the TAC meeting that there was another amendment that needed to be approved before September 30, 2011 for statewide planning and research funds (SPR). However, he had no information or documentation on this amendment. The PAC was only being asked to take action on the DNREC Trails project.

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot recommend Council approve the DNREC Trails FY2011 amendment. Seconded by Mr. Fry. Motion carried.

10. ACTION ITEM: DelDOT letter suggesting Federal Fund Programming – DelDOT

Mr. Vetter reviewed the proposed use of federal funds, including Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. These projects are statewide and are not prioritized by the MPO.

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to recommend Council concur with DelDOT's use of federal funds. Seconded by Dr. Houghtaling. Motion carried.

11. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT: Data and Demographics Committee report – Jim Galvin

Mr. Galvin reported that the subcommittee is working on the employment projections to 2040, but it is a difficult job due to the economy. He noted that the subcommittee had received information from Dover, the Central DE Chamber of Commerce, Cheswold and Smyrna. Milford is the only member of the committee that has not participated to date. Mr. Galvin also reported that there was a discrepancy with the subcommittees numbers and the control totals, and he will be contacting Mr. Ed Ratledge at the University of Delaware to discuss this. The final numbers will come to the PAC for review and action at the next meeting.



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12. Staff Report –

12.1 Progress & Financial Reports – Rich Vetter

12.2 Other Project Updates/Activities – MPO Staff

12.3 Correspondence, Publications/Reports/Outreach – K. Layton

Mr. Vetter reported that the last Regional Transportation Plan update was in January 2009. Although the MPO is not required to do the next update just yet, staff will be working on this project due to air quality conformity issues. There is a disconnect between the State's AQ budget and the new model that will be required soon; if the MPO completes the necessary modeling by March 2012, it will be good for four years. The new model and a new AQ budget will then be in use at the same time.

Ms. Layton reported on events the MPO participated in over the summer, and announced those that would take place in the fall. She also gave updates on the website and the data book.

NEXT MEETING: Oct. 25, 2011 at Harrington Senior Center, 102 Fleming St., Harrington, DE

MOTION By Mr. Gumrot to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Webster. Motion carried.